

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9 and 11-15 have been examined. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9 and 11-15 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 16-23 are hereby added by this Amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9 and 11-15 stand rejected under § 102(b) as being anticipated by Balderrama et al. (US 5,806,071). Applicant traverses this rejection for the reasons set forth below.

First, Applicant submits this rejection is moot with regard to claims 1, 3-5, 7-9 and 11-15 as they are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by this Amendment.

Second, Applicant submits new claim 16 is allowable because Balderama fails to disclose the recited key groups. In particular, Balderama fails to disclose “a touch panel that displays a first key group and a second key group, the second key group including a product key and a first switching key, the first switching key switching a display from displaying the second key group to a third key group on one display,” as recited in claim 16.

Specifically, cell 262a (see FIG. 13) fails to correspond to the recited second or fourth key group, because cell 262a does not include a product key, as recited in claims 15 and 16. Rather, cell 262a is merely a switching key. Consequently, when cell 262a is pressed menu 260 changes to menu 280 and cells 262b, 262c and 262d disappear.

Thus, Applicant submits claim 16 is allowable for at least this reason. Additionally, Applicant submits that because claim 20 recites similar features, this claim is allowable for the

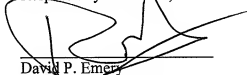
same reasons set forth above. Finally, Applicant submits claims 18, 19, 21 and 22 are allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



David P. Emery
Registration No. 55,154

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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